

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 currently are pending in the above-captioned patent application and are subject to examination. Reconsideration of the above-captioned patent application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,083,353 to Alexander, Jr. In making this rejection, the Examiner asserts that Alexander, Jr. discloses each and every element of claims 1-5. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Specifically, Applicants' independent claim 1 describes a picture mapping system wherein "positional information signals transmitted from GPS satellites and/or GPS base stations are also fed to the computer to determine the positions and the orientations of various pictures taken by the camera, thereby **synthesizing together the pictures** on the display of the computer to obtain an overall picture **representing the entire field**."

In contrast, Alexander, Jr. describes a system in which one or more cameras may be mounted to a vehicle for agricultural field data collection. See, e.g., Alexander, Jr., Column 2, Lines 13-16; Column 3, Lines 9 and 10; and Column 10, Lines 44-61. Specifically, the one or more cameras may obtain images of an agricultural field and may transmit such images to a central processor unit, and this system uses data received from a GPS satellite to determine a positional location of such images. See, e.g., *Id.* at Column 5, Lines 19-23; Column 6, Lines 14-18; and Column 7, Lines 44-48.

The Examiner asserts that Alexander, Jr. also discloses "synthesizing together the pictures on the display of the computer to obtain an overall picture representing the entire

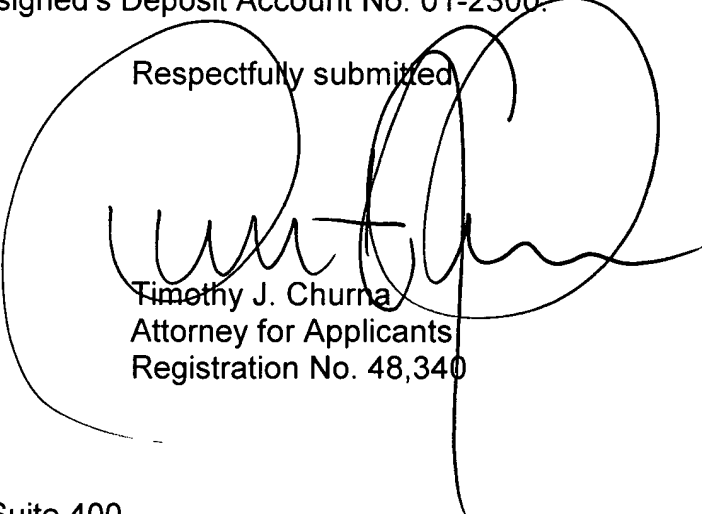
field,” as set forth in independent claim 1. Specifically, in support of his assertion, the Examiner cites to Column 6, Lines 39-52 of Alexander, Jr. However, this portion of Alexander, Jr. merely states that “[a]n interface from the cameras to the imbedded computer processor and software capable of displaying, processing, and storing the images.” Applicants respectfully submit that neither this portion nor any other portion of Alexander, Jr. discloses that the computer processor and/or software synthesizes the individual images together to obtain an image of the entire agricultural field, as set forth in independent claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the anticipation rejection of independent claim 1.

Claims 2-5 depend from allowable independent claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner also withdraw the anticipation rejection of claims 2-5.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-captioned patent application is in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that an in-person or telephonic interview with Applicants' representatives would expedite the prosecution of the above-captioned patent application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney of records. Applicants believe that no fees are due as a result of this response to the outstanding Office Action in the above-captioned patent application. Nevertheless, in the event of any variance between the fees determined by Applicants and those determined by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, please charge any such variance to the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 01-2300.

Respectfully submitted,



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